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National Council on the Arts



National Endowment for the Arts

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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September 23, 1971

Dear Mr. Coffey:

Thank you for your letter of August 19 in response to the President's May 26 Memorandum concerning the Federal Government and the arts.

I was very pleased to learn of the existence of the Central Intelligence Agency's Fine Arts Commission. It certainly has undertaken many successful projects to enhance the interior decor of the Agency's offices, as well as the sensitivity of the Agency's employees to the arts.

The Fine Arts Commission and its program could serve as excellent examples to all Federal agencies, regardless of their missions, of appropriate "in-house" activities to stimulate a greater awareness of and appreciation for the arts among Federal employees and the public they serve. I intend to convey this idea in the report which the National Endowment for the Arts is preparing in response to the President's Memorandum.

Your suggestion that Federal agencies rent works of art, thereby lending support to artists while at the same time enhancing their offices and providing employees with an exposure to art, is most interesting. I assure you this idea will be given thorough consideration.

Mr. John W. Coffey

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When the final report to the President is completed, I will be pleased to send you a copy for your information, review and comment.

If any of the staff from the National Endowment for the Arts can be of assistance to the Fine Arts Commission in exploring new arts activities for the Agency, I hope you will not hesitate to be in touch with Lani Lattin who is Executive Secretary to the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities (382-3980).

Sincerely,



Nancy Hanks  
Chairman

? - Mr. John W. Coffey  
- Department Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

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